

Message Text

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TAGS: SENV, OECD

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE - COMMENTS ON DRAFT

SUMMARY OF 15TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

WE HAVE REVIEWED THE SUBJECT DRAFT REPORT (COMMITTEE ROOM DOC. NO. 12, DATED JULY 1) AND HAVE SEVERAL COMMENTS TO MAKE. MISSION IS REQUESTED TRANSMIT FOLLOWING POINTS TO SECRETARIAT ASAP, UNLESS IT PERCEIVES OBJECTIONS. POINTS ARE KEYED TO NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS OF SUBJECT DOCUMENT.

5. INSERT THE WORDS "GENERALLY" OR "IN PRINCIPLE" BETWEEN "COMMITTEE" AND "AGREED." DESPITE THE LENGTHY DEBATE, THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC ITEM BY ITEM CONSIDERATION OF ENV (75)20. UNQUALIFIED AGREEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OVERSTATES THE CASE. (FOR EXAMPLE, PARA 15 MENTIONS A VARIETY OF PROPOSALS, NOT ALL OF WHICH WERE EVEN DISCUSSED; PARA 12'S UNCLASSIFIED

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"PILOT COUNTRY" APPROACH WAS NEVER UNANIMOUSLY DISTIN-

GUISHED FROM THE "LEAD COUNTRY" CONCEPT, DESPITE RODERICK'S EXPLANATION THAT THEY ARE NOT THE SAME THINGS.) FYI: IN VIEW OF PAST PROBLEMS THE COMMITTEE HAS HAD WHEN ITS (CARELESS) UNQUALIFIED "AGREEMENT" TO SECRETARIAT DOCUMENTS WAS LATER QUOTED BACK AT IT, WE STRONGLY FEEL THERE SHOULD BE SOME QUALIFICATION IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA. END FYI.

9. THE FRENCH RESERVATIONS WERE NEVER FORMAL. THEY SHOULD THUS BE QUALITATIVELY DISTINGUISHED FROM THE SPANISH AND TURKISH RESERVATIONS - ON A DIFFERENT ISSUE - NOTED IN PARA 6. ALSO, FRENCH TOOK ISSUE WITH "PILOT COUNTRY" CONCEPT (VICE LEAD COUNTRY), WHICH THEY SAID SHOULD BE VOLUNTARY. THIS CLARIFICATION WOULD ALSO BE APPROPRIATE.

19. IN ORDER ACCURATELY TO REFLECT "RESOLUTION" OF THIS ISSUE, WE URGE LAST PART OF FIRST SENTENCE BE AMENDED TO READ "... ENV(75)22 UNTIL THE SECRETARIAT HAD DISCUSSED WITH THE AIR GROUP (AND WATER GROUP) THEIR VARIOUS RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTED ON THESE AND RESOURCE AVAILABILITIES AT ITS NEXT SESSION." WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT NOTE OF WATER GROUP (C.R. DOC NO. 5) WAS NOT ON FORMAL AGENDA, IT WOULD APPEAR APPROPRIATE TO EXPAND THIS PARA (19) TO COVER IT AS WELL AS THE AIR GROUP'S NOTE.

29. AMEND TO READ: "THE COMMITTEE TOOK NOTE OF THE SECRETARIAT'S REPORT. THE BUREAU AGREED TO REVIEW THE ISSUE TO SEE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT THERE WERE NO POSSIBILITIES FOR ANY MAJOR ACTIVITY IN 1976." (NOTE: WE WOULD BE WILLING TO DROP THE ABOVE CLAUSE STARTING "THE BUREAU," BUT BELIEVE THAT THE REVISED "IT WAS AGREED TO REVIEW" LANGUAGE IS MORE ACCURATE THAN "AGREED TO DISCONTINUE" AS IN THE PROVISIONAL DRAFT SUMMARY. WE HOPE EVENTUALLY TO FIND AN APPROPRIATE VEHICLE FOR BREATHING NEW LIFE INTO THE PROJECT AND WANT RECORD TO BE CLEAR THAT COMMITTEE DID NOT AGREE TO ITS DEMISE.)

35. OUR RECORDS INDICATE THAT THE SECRETARIAT AGREED THAT THERE WOULD BE ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PROGRAM'S REQUIREMENTS IN 1976, BUT THAT WHILE THERE WAS SUPPORT IN THE COMMITTEE FOR CONTINUING THE PROGRAM PENDING ITS ULTIMATE TRANSFERRAL TO UNEP, HOW IT MIGHT BE FINANCED/SUPPORTED IN 1977 WAS NOT FINALLY AGREED.

39. FIRST SENTENCE OF DRAFT SUMMARY IS NOT COMPLETELY ACCURATE AND SHOULD MORE PROPERLY READ: "THE COMMITTEE APPROVED THE PROPOSAL BY THE CHEMICALS GROUP TO EXAMINE

THE ISSUE OF FLUOROCARBONS IN THE ENVIRONMENT." AMEND
LAST SENTENCE TO READ: "IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS REPORT
BE MADE TO THE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT SESSION, WHEN CON-
SIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO WHAT FURTHER ACTION MIGHT BE
APPROPRIATE." THIS IS MORE INFORMATIVE THAN EXISTING
STATEMENT. INGERSOLL

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